

Los Angeles Examiner

MAY 13 1958

XAs 6-2 F. Lewis  
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## Central Intelligence Under Criticism

By **Fulton Lewis Jr.**

WASHINGTON, May 12.

THERE are growing backstage rumblings in Congress for an effective joint House-Senate watchdog committee to do a surveillance job over Allen Dulles' Central Intelligence Agency.

It won't be easy. Brother John Foster Dulles, in the State Department and his son in the White House will fight the idea with all the influence at their command because Allen Dulles likes to think of his outfit as a sacrosanct operation beyond Congressional jurisdiction.



But responsible Congressional leaders are increasingly concerned over stories that emanate through CIA leaks, to the effect that Allen Dulles himself doesn't realize what he has collected in the way of strange personnel. They never have liked the idea of a vast governmental agency which submits no budget and is subjected to no audit of expenditures.

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Dulles is supposed to report to the President, but this is an empty formality. Eisenhower has neither the time nor the means of knowing whether the reports are realistic, nor does Allen Dulles himself for that matter. Under such circumstances, the opportunities for maladministration and a Pandora's box full of evils are limitless.

What concerns the Congressional leaders even more, however, is an outfit which is even more secretive and protected than the CIA, known as the National Security Agency. They want to put that under the watchdog committee, too, and on this score, the Administration leaders will really blow their tops.

### Anonymous Financing

The NSA is so secret that it is not even listed in the Congressional Directory. It does not appear anywhere in the budget; instead, it is financed by various anonymous funds appropriated to the White House and executive agencies. It is not listed in the Washington phone directory, nor in any other public documents of Government.

For all of that, however, it is one of the largest and heaviest spending agencies of government. Its establishment at nearby Fort Meade, is under drastic security guards, and includes acres of buildings. Its basic purpose is code deciphering, which involves a fabulous maze of special International Business Machines equipment, some of it several stories tall.

All of this is fine except that the Congressional critics contend that the excessive secrecy is not necessary, and that as in the CIA, it constitutes an invitation for all sorts of evils.

Purported defense for all the secrecy is that the work is top-secret, both in NSA and the CIA. The inquiring Congressmen point out, however, that so is the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and J. Edgar Hoover doesn't cloak his agency in any such mystery.

The Congressmen contend that it may be necessary to exercise some security in regard to certain operations of the CIA and the NSA, but it makes no sense to pretend they don't exist.

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(Listen to Fulton Lewis Jr. daily at 4 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., KHJ Don Lee.)